

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Summary of Office Action

In the Office action mailed December 15, 2004, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-7, 12-17, and 28-45 are allowable. Applicants have cancelled all other pending claims.

2. Response to Examiner's Reason for Allowance

The Applicants note the Examiner's reasons for an indication of allowable subject matter, but further comment that the art of record, alone and in combination, fails to show, teach or suggest the entirety of each combination of steps and/or structure recited by each of the allowed claims of the present invention.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the reasons for allowance are only warranted in instances in which the record of the prosecution as a whole does not make clear his or her reasons for allowing a claim or claims. In light of the original disclosure, previous Office Actions and responses, however, the Applicants believe that the record as a whole does make the reasons for allowance clear. Moreover, the Applicants do not necessarily agree with each statement in the reasons for allowance. The Applicants believe that the Statements of Reasons for Allowance in this case are improper as it merely copies limitations of the claims into the reasons for allowance. While the Applicants believe that the claims are allowable, the Applicants do not acquiesce that patentability resides in the features, as explicitly set forth in the claims, nor that each feature is required for patentability.

3. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance with respect to allowed claims 1-7, 12-17, and 28-45. If the Examiner would like to discuss this case, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (312) 913-3305.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 15, 2005

By:


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